

Senate Passes Bill Guarding Privacy Of U.S. Employees

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13 (UPI)—Despite warnings that United States espionage may be hampered, the Senate voted Wednesday, 79 to 4, to keep the private lives of Federal employees private.

Legislation that would ban requirements that Government job applicants submit to questioning about sex, religion and personal relationships was passed and sent to the House.

Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., Democrat of North Carolina, went along with partial exemptions in the measure for the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Under the exemption, the three agencies would be permitted to use lie detectors and psychological tests during job interviews, provided the director or his aide found the tests were required to protect national security.

But Senators John Stennis, Democrat of Mississippi, Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of Washington, and others warned that the measure would curtail efforts of the C.I.A. to screen out homosexuals and other applicants who might endanger national security.

Under the bill, employees could not be required to attend Government-sponsored meetings outside work hours, report on their outside activities, buy Government bonds, make charitable contributions or disclose financial assets and liabilities unless an item showed conflict of interest.

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